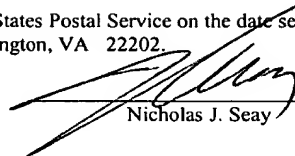


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date set forth below as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P O Box 2327, Arlington, VA 22202.

Date of Signature and Deposit: May 21, 2003

  
Nicholas J. Seay

1632  
#8320  
Dici  
6/3/03

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: James A. Thomson

Date: May 21, 2003

Serial No.: 09/522,030

Group Art Unit: 1632

Filed: 03/09/2000

Examiner: Joseph T. Voitach

For: SERUM FREE CULTIVATION OF PRIMATE  
EMBRYONIC STEM CELLS

File No.: 960296.96544

CORRECTED AMENDMENT

RECEIVED

Commissioner For Patents  
P O 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

MAY 29 2003

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Dear Sir:

As a follow-up to the filing of a Request for Continued Examination in this patent application, and in partial response to the comments made by the Examiner at the time of issuing the Advisory Action After Final, and in response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated May 15, 2003, the applicant herewith amends the application as follows:

In the Claims

Please amend Claims 1, 9, 14, and 17 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended Three Times) A method of culturing primate embryonic stem cells, comprising:

201  
culturing the primate embryonic stem cells in a culture containing amino acids, vitamins, at least one transferrin or transferrin substitute, and at least one insulin or insulin substitute, the culture being essentially free of mammalian fetal serum and that contains exogenously supplied mammalian fibroblast growth factor that is supplied from a source other than just a fibroblast feeder layer.